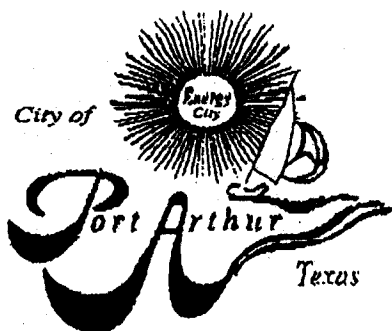


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CITY ATTORNEY

January 23, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The Court has an opportunity to end one of the most misguided and wasteful lawsuits in the history of the United States by dismissing the remaining lawsuits against Microsoft Corporation and accepting the proposed settlement.

The cost of the lengthy litigation has now exceeded \$30 million and is rapidly rising as each day passes. Any financial judgement against Microsoft will be so diminished by legal and administrative fees that very little will actually find its way to the consumer.

The proposed settlement puts an end to the wasteful use of taxpayer dollars and requires Microsoft to make substantial financial and proprietary concessions.

Though this settlement may not appeal to Microsoft's competitors, it certainly has great appeal to those of us who would like to see the continuance of the technological advances made by one of America's great success stories.

I am writing to ask that the Court accept the settlement and let Microsoft and the rest of the high tech industry get back to developing innovative products in a truly competitive atmosphere.

Sincerely,

Oscar G. Ortiz
Mayor